

her promotion to Chief Journal Clerk. And her dependability, endurance, faithfulness, and loyalty were proved by her 20 years of selfless public service to the House of Representatives.

Not only does Eve serve others at her job, but she also actively serves others in her private life as well. She is Head Verger of the Church of the Holy Comforter in Vienna, Virginia, and she has recently been invited to serve as Volunteer Verger at the National Cathedral. Also, Eve plans on returning to her activities in the community theater, which she has been unable to participate in due to the demanding schedule of the House.

An ancient Hebrew Proverb teaches that, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." To earn the "good name" spoken of in this Proverb, one must be committed to utmost integrity. Eve's unwavering commitment to integrity has rewarded her with a "good name." Moreover, Eve's shining inner character allows her to leave the House with truly significant "riches" worth far more than money or wealth—a legacy of 20 years of honorable service and an unscathed reputation of utmost integrity.

IN TRIBUTE TO EVE BUTLER-GEE,
HOUSE JOURNAL CLERK, ON THE
OCCASION OF HER FORTHCOMING
RETIREMENT

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, the hard-working, dedicated employees who sit here on the dais behind the Well of the House are the heart and soul of this institution. Their sacrifice and service are the glue that enables the House to proceed with its business and that helps all of us to serve our constituents and the American people.

On a daily basis, the employees who sit on the dais are an invaluable resource to all of us who are privileged to serve in the House of Representatives. They serve all of us, without regard to party. Every day that the house is in session, and certainly when we have weeks as lengthy and as challenging as this one, we all surely have to admire the selfless devotion to service that keeps the House staff at their posts working to serve all of us.

Whether it is two or three o'clock in the morning during a heavy legislative week, or simply recording the proceedings on a routine Suspensions Monday, no matter what the challenges may be, our reading and journal clerks are always here to assist us and serve this institution.

It is all too rare that we say thank you for their hard work, their patience, their good humor, and their devotion to this body. Today, however, is a very special occasion and I want to take this time to thank and salute one of the giants of the staff of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and pay tribute to the House's Chief Journal Clerk, Eve Butler-Gee, who will be retiring when we adjourn at the end of this legislative week for our Summer recess. According to the Congressional Research Service, Eve is the first woman Journal Clerk in the history of the House of Representatives.

Ms. Butler-Gee and her three Assistant Journal Clerks are always on duty at the rostrum to ensure that the House meets its constitutional responsibility to maintain an official record of the parliamentary proceedings of the House. Eve has done a great deal to modernize Journal procedures and enhance the professionalism of the Journal clerks.

Eve began her professional career in the House while in her early twenties. She left the House in the middle of her working years to work for a charitable foundation, and then returned to the House in 1987 when then Minority Leader Bob Michel appointed her as the Minority Enrolling Clerk of the House.

In her tenure as the Journal Clerk, like all those who have preceded her and all those Clerks who will follow her, Eve has been a witness to history, to events of great joy, those of great sadness, events that often truly have changed the shape of our world. What remarkable stories she will take with her as she concludes her service!

I could use my time to review more of Eve's professional accomplishments, but those of us who are privileged to know her, and to experience her wisdom, her humor, her warmth and friendliness, know that Eve is so much more than her resume.

Eve has been a good friend to all of us and a person whose service has brought great credit upon this institution. I understand that Eve intends to spend her retirement traveling, enjoying her family, pursuing her interests in writing and community theater, and continuing active service with the Episcopal Church.

I value Eve's ability and her diligent service greatly. What I value even more is the friendship and warmth that she brought to all of her contacts with me, and, I know, with so many other Members.

So I conclude simply by saying: Thank you, Eve for your pioneering service, for your professionalism, and for your friendship. I wish you well and know that the future will continue to hold great things for you. Congratulations and Godspeed in your retirement.

ON THE FCC'S RULING CONCERNING
UNBUNDLED NETWORK
ELEMENTS

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, when Congress enacted the Telecommunications Act of 1996, it created three ways to spur telecommunications competition—the interconnection of competing networks, use of parts of competitors' networks, called unbundled network elements (UNEs), and the resale of the incumbents' retail services. Congress intended that UNEs and resale, or wholesale, prices be set to equal the retail cost, minus the avoided costs of not having to sell to the public, such as advertising.

However, when the Federal Communications Commission wrote the rules, it set rates for UNEs at a bizarre below-cost rate called TELRIC. Furthermore, the FCC allowed competitors to put all the UNEs together into a platform, called UNE-P. For all intents and purposes, UNE-P and resale are the same product. While the Congressionally mandated

rate for this service amounts to about a 20% discount, the FCC-created UNE-P price can have a discount of up to 55%.

In February, the FCC reviewed its UNE rules and decided to keep the current UNE-P regime for the mass market. This was an unfortunate decision. Business plans built on regulatory arbitrage rarely last, they witness reciprocal compensation and are certainly not going to create new investment and new innovation. If the FCC wanted a truly competitive telecommunications market, based on sound economic principles, with strong companies and resulting jobs, it should have eliminated the UNE-P regime for the mass market in February.

IN HONOR OF JACK WITTEN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jack Witten, a man with a distinguished record of military and private sector service. Mr. Witten's career has spanned decades and encompassed a number of notable accomplishments in the field of aeronautical engineering. Mr. Witten has also had an accomplished personal life that I am sure his seven Eagle Scout grandchildren can attest to.

It was Charles Lindbergh's 1927 flight over the Atlantic Ocean that initially sparked Mr. Witten's interest in aviation. After that historic flight, Mr. Witten began spending much of his time observing local airport hangars and taking in Army air shows and national air races in his boyhood home of Illinois. He spent many a Saturday afternoon hitchhiking to the hangars and air shows with his cousin Tom.

In 1938, Mr. Witten quit his steeple-jacking job and joined the Navy Reserve. He was put on active duty at the Wright Reynolds Airport in Glenview, Illinois almost immediately. There, he and his fellow reservists maintained a fleet of 26 aircraft and trained a reserve squadron of 400 men. During the course of his service in the Navy Reserve, Mr. Witten instructed, developed, and reorganized training programs in aircraft maintenance and engineering for both pilots and ex-GI's.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Witten has also spent much of his career serving our area through his work for the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics at the Pax River Naval Air Station. Mr. Witten first came to Pax River in 1943, just six days after the air station was commissioned. He was able to realize his dream of both working and living on the Atlantic Coast when he and his family later moved to St. Mary's County. During his time at Pax River, Mr. Witten helped to establish aeronautical maintenance engineering as both a term and function.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Witten has had a number of other notable accomplishments throughout his distinguished career. He created the Aircraft Maintenance Officer category of military service, established the annual meeting of the Depot Aeronautical Engineering Superintendents, revised contract requirements for military hardware design changes, and conducted materials review of new aircraft designs. Mr. Witten also instituted the use of improved aircraft testing techniques and devices, such as the spectrographic analysis of engine oil to detect failing engines, now in worldwide use by